

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00460 221255Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 DRC-01 IO-14

/120 W

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O P 211340Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3967

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0460

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, ZA SF

SUBJECT: ZAMBIANS SEEK DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICANS

REF: STATE 181014

1. EMBASSY HAD NOT RESPONDED TO REFTEL EARLIER BECAUSE IT WAS RECEIVED IN CAPE TOWN ONLY TODAY.

2. WE REGARD ZAMBIAN DESIRE TO MEET WITH HIGH-LEVEL SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS AS OPPORTUNITY WHICH SHOULD NOT BE MISSED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. FROM TIME TO TIME SAG OFFICIALS HAVE LET US KNOW THAT THEY WOULD WELCOME ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR QUIET DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES. ZAMBIA OFTEN HAS BEEN MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY.

3. ALTHOUGH SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO SWAZI TRADE FAIR HAS NOT YET BEEN SELECTED, WE ARE INFORMED THAT IN ALL PROBABILITY IT WILL CONSIST OF "LOW-LEVEL" OFFICIALS. FOR THIS REASON, WE DO NOT BELIEVE TRADE FAIR WILL PROVIDE
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00460 221255Z

ADEQUATE VENUE FOR TALKS OF THE NATURE MENTIONED BY ZAMBIAN

FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA. WE, THEREFORE, SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY ACT AS INTERMEDIARY WITH SAG TO INFORM THEM OF MWAANGA'S DESIRE FOR TALKS. THIS WOULD MOST APPROPRIATELY BE DONE BY DISCUSSION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND FONMIN MULLER.

4. SAG PARTICIPANT IN TALKS WITH MWAANGA MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE OF MINISTERIAL RANK. HOWEVER, PARTICIPATION BY SAG MINISTER OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE PREFERABLE AND SAG MAY WISH TO HAVE MULLER OR OTHER LEADING CABINET MINISTER MEET WITH MWAANGA. IN OUR OPINION, A CABINET MINISTER WOULD BE ABLE TO ABSENT HIMSELF WITHOUT AROUSING MUCH PUBLIC NOTICE OR REQUIRING EXPLANATION. IT IS NOT RPT NOT UNUSUAL, DURING LENGTHY SESSION OF PARLIAMENT, FOR MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, INCLUDING CABINET MEMBERS, TO BE ABSENT EVEN FOR A DAY OR MORE. ONE LONG-TIME OBSERVER OF PARLIAMENTARY SESSIONS HAS REMARKED TO US THAT NO ONE MUCH NOTICES OR READS ANY PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IN ABSENCE OF CABINET MINISTER FROM FLOOR OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.
HURD

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